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Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 06818 051634Z
ACTION EUR-03

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ONY-00 /004 W
----------125877 051759Z /46
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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0025

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 06818

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FOR GARRISON FROM MATLOCK

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OGEN
SUBJECT: OFFICIAL INFORMAL

1. RE PARA 3 STATE 79040, WE CALLED ON THE AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY AND WERE GIVEN A LOOK AT THE CABLE REPORTING THEIR AMBASSADOR'S FEBRUARY 16 CALL ON ISRAELYAN DEALING WITH CCD. WE WERE NOT GIVEN A COPY OF THE CABLE AND WOULD APPRECIATE A COPY THROUGH THE POUCH.

2. FURTHER TO COMMENT IN MOSCOW 6365 ON THE DAILY PRESS SUMMARY, POL SUGGESTS THE FOLLOWING AS AN ALTERNATIVE, WHICH WOULD SEEM TO BE WITHIN THE POSSIBILITIES OF INR'S RESOURCES AND TO MEET MARSHALL'S REQUEST. COULDN'T INR SEND MARSHALL THE TASS SUMMARY OF PRAVDA, WHICH IS TRANSMITTED ON THE TASS WIRE ABOUT 0100 WASHINGTON TIME? THIS COULD BE SUPPLEMENTED BY SEPARATE TASS COVERAGE OF MAJOR ITEMS IN THE SOVIET PRESS, MOST OF WHICH SHOULD REACH WASHINGTON VIA THE TASS WIRE PRIOR TO 0700. IF A PARTICULAR PRESS ITEM WARRANTS, WE COULD UNDERTAKE TO SEND IN A PRELIMINARY REPORT BY IMMEDIATE PRECEDENCE, SLUGGED FOR S/MS. POL WOULD MUCH PREFER THIS TO A NEW STANDING REQUIREMENT WHICH WOULD INVOLVE A TIGHT DAILY DEADLINE.
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3. AS YOU MAY KNOW, WE RECENTLY WERE NOTIFIED BY FBIS WASHINGTON THAT FSI HAS MADE ARRANGEMENTS THROUGH FBIS STARTING THIS MONTH TO OBTAIN VIDEO TAPES OF SOVIET TV. FBIS HAS ASKED CONTRACTOR HERE (AND SHE HAS AGREED) TO MAKE ONE HOUR TAPE A WEEK LABELED FOR FSI WHICH FBIS LONDON WILL FORWARD TO ROSSLYN. ALL COMMUNICATIONS FROM FSI WILL

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GO THROUGH FBIS. FSI WILL CONTRIBUTE 25 NEW TAPES TO FBIS POOL AND REIMBURSE FBIS FOR CONTRACTOR'S WORK ON BASIS MONTHLY REPORTS FROM HERE. THESE ARRANGEMENTS ARE FINE WITH US AS THEY KEEP ALL FILMING, MAILING, AND PAYMENTS IN ONE CHANNEL. BUT WE WANTED TO BE SURE YOU KNEW OF THESE DEVELOPMENTS, AND HAD NO PROBLEM WITH THEM.

4. WOULD YOU INFORM THOSE WHO PREPARE THE CIA REFERENCE AID "DIRECTORY OF USSR MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OFFICIALS" THAT WE HAVE A LIST OF CHANGES WHICH WILL BE COMING IN THE POUCH LATER THIS WEEK. OUR CHANGES ARE QUITE EXTENSIVE THIS YEAR SINCE WE CANVASSED THE OTHER EMBASSIES IN TOWN WHICH USE THE DIRECTORY. THEY HAVE GIVEN US UPDATES AND, WHERE KNOWN, NEW ASSIGNMENTS. WE WOULD LIKE TO DO THIS EACH YEAR AND KNOWING THE PUBLICATION SCHEDULE WOULD HELP US TO TIME THE CHANGES TO MEET THE DEADLINES. TOON

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